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Hawks' Herald - December 3, 2003

Roger Williams University

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HAWK'S HERALD

Volume 14, Issue 8

Roger Williams University

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Campus walk held to ensure community's safety; moves heighten Crime Prevention

By Blaine Moffa

News Editor

The Roger Williams University Department of Public Safety (DPS) held its first ever campus safe walk on Thursday, Nov. 20. In conjunction with maintenance facilities, students and input from faculty, DPS toured the entire campus in hopes of alleviating some concerns over unsafe areas. The walk is part of the larger Crime Prevention program, aimed at educating the students about stopping senseless acts of violence around campus.

Officer Tammi Tabares, Director of Crime Prevention, lead the walk and asked for any additional areas that seemed worrisome to the campus community. The hour-long tour provided some

insight to areas that members of the campus community would like to see improved.

The north end of the Recreation Center (the wall that faces the soccer field) was raised as a concern for being very dark, and lighting is being looked into for this stretch of campus. There were also inquiries about potholes along the Bayside/North entrance roadway, as well as possibly creating a keycard entrance for the Bayside gate. Outside of campus, facilities declared that there will be another emergency "blue light" installed in the Almeida shuttle stop. One is already in place behind the Marine and Natural Science building.

Maintenance is also looking into controlling the lights over the first set of tennis courts that corners the end of the north lot road. The spotlights at the top

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For pictures of Mr. RWU
See Page 7

Student charged with DUI removed from campus, Judge fears temptation of on-campus partying

By Jason Turcotte

Co-Editor

A Roger Williams University student, accused of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol this summer, tested negative for drugs on Oct. 9 and Nov. 19, after a judge modified his release conditions fearing on-campus partying would entice freshman William Senne, 18, of Wayland, Mass.

Prosecutors claim that students at RWU spotted Senne smoking marijuana and consuming alcohol in early October. But Senne's lawyer, Paul Kelly, stressed that these allegations have gone unfounded and that his client did not violate his release conditions, which order Senne to steer clear of alcohol and drugs.

"Billy's release conditions were modified in October because a judge in the Wareham District Court was concerned with reports he had heard about the use of drugs and alcohol by students at RWU, and he did not want Billy exposed to an ever-present temptation to use illicit substances," said Kelly.

The Wareham District judge required that Senne leave RWU housing and live at home, where he is permitted to leave only to attend classes at RWU, medical or court appointments. Senne is also required to wear an electronic monitoring device. Neither the prosecution nor defense objected to the altered terms of Senne's bail conditions, though the prosecution initially requested Senne's bail be revoked.

After Senne was indicted by

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President communicates with student body via forum

By Allison Deyo

Staff Writer

On Tuesday Nov. 11, President Nirschel, along with five of his colleagues, held a presidential forum moderated by Student Senate President Erin Bedell. President Nirschel brought to the podium: Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Edward Kavanagh, CFO and Vice President of Finance and Administration James Noonan, Vice President of Enrollment Management and

Retention Lynn Fawthrop, Dean of Student Affairs Richard Stegman, and Vice President of Human Resources and General Counsel Robert Avery.

The purpose of the forum was to give students a chance to bring their concerns, comments, and questions directly to President Nirschel. Nirschel began the discussion with a thirty-minute overview of the general status of RWU, including detailed information on plans for the future.

The future plans slated for RWU are ambitious. The school plans to level off enrollment, holding it steady around

3500 students, while maintaining a high level of experienced faculty. Nirschel noted that in the two years he has been president, he added 29 new faculty members. There is now a "master plan" for future zoning and construction, a ten-year arrangement that has

already been approved by the town of Bristol. Over the next 3-4 years, RWU will imple-

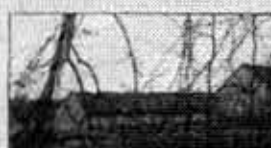
ment the 40 million dollar construction plan, which will include: new academic buildings, increased parking, a new dining hall, a massive expansion to the School of Architecture, and a new residence village.

With a crowd hovering around 150, several students asked questions of the President and his panel. The questions ranged from fixing a leak in the architecture building to inquiring about having a supply of Pepsi on campus. Among them:

Should the University force faculty to take teaching seminars on how to teach more effectively? Technically, RWU already has new faculty participating in lectures on effective teaching, but the senior administration does not like to "force faculty," responded the panel.

Will the University bring a convenience store back to campus? No, but the University is looking at an automated convenience store already popular in Europe. The store would provide food items, such as eggs, milk, and bread, in addition

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EDITORIAL

Volume 14, Issue 7

Tuesday, December 2, 2003

Dear Hawks Herald:

My letter to the players and parents of the RWU Men's Soccer Team has generated incredible support for Brian and my thoughts regarding Senior Day. What has been an added bonus is that Brian's story has traveled through the athletic community both at RWU, Rhode Island and neighboring states.

I have heard from players, parents, former players and parents, and players of different sports both at RWU and other Universities regarding their agreement with my ponderings. I will admit that one player did write asking me if I had my head glued on right.

One story that I would like to relay took place at our State's University just this past weekend. The coach of the team is passionate about his sport, and passionate about his team performing well. With a disheartening record this year, some might say he needed to play his best every moment of the game in the hopes of improving their record. It was, however, Senior Day.

Having heard Brian's story, the "playing" senior members of the team went to the coach and told him what had happened to Brian and expressed their concern that this not happen to their fellow senior teammates. The coach responded that it was his intention to include every senior member at the start of the game. Two of the players had not seen much time at all, yet they were given the title of Captains for the game, (New captains are named weekly) and played for a portion of the game. Another member of the team has been unable to play because of a knee injury; but on Saturday, he suited up, stepped on the field, was a part of the first tackle, and then came to the sidelines. No doubt, he will remember being injured for a large part of his senior season; but he will remember with fondness, the last play he made and the support his coach and teammates gave him. The team, the coaches and the university honored the senior athletes for toughing it out all four years, for attending practice, for cheering for the team, for being dedicated to a sport and just because they love the game. Everyone who watched the game, who participated in the game, who knew the seniors, or who knew Brian, felt good about what took place on the field. Good enough, that they took the time to call me and tell me the story.

This is just one of dozens of stories that have been relayed to me since November 1. College coaches that I work with on a daily basis, have relayed story after story of how they "celebrate" senior day, and none of them have included omitting a player from a game. So, my question still remains, how is it that after four years of sweat, energy and dedication a player wasn't afforded his moment of the field? (It should also be mentioned that in the 2002 season Brian appeared in 11 games and only gave up 1 goal in the 11 games!)

You are correct in stating that, "Colleges are not only institutions for higher education, but at their core, they are businesses. And by having a successful, winning soccer team, they attract more valued customers." But, it is the role of any good business to make sure their current customers continue to feel like "valued customers". If the present "customers" feel less then valued and relay that information on, why would the business attract new customers?

In a poem written about this incident, Brian's sister Rebecca ended it by writing:

If there is a lesson to learn,

It is that all teammates should stand firm

Stand up, speak out, do not stand at bay

Show some respect for all the years of hard work and play

For it is a Senior's right to play on Senior Day.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Fish

Hawk's Herald Staff

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POLICE BEAT

Too close for comfort

11/12 at 10:40 p.m. A female student reported being followed by a male subject to Almeida Court apartments.

Who let the narks out?

11/3 at 8:02 p.m. Bristol Police investigated reports of narcotics on the RWU campus.

Summons issued

11/14 at 2:09 a.m. Bristol Police followed up on a pending investigation, which led Officer John Nappi to issue a summons to a subject in Tidewater apartments.

Here today, gone tomorrow

11/15 at 2:48 p.m. A female student at RWU advised Bristol Police that her purse was stolen.

NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Crime Prevention

continued from front page

of the courts can be hazardous to drivers leaving the Bayside exit.

A prime concern for faculty was the absence of lighting in the back of the faculty lot behind Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences. Teachers leaving campus at night have a hard time seeing their vehicles, as well as seeing at all into the woods behind their cars. Lighting is being looked into for that area as well.

In addition, students were worried about the dark and treacherous "Willow path," the man-made walkway between the Department of Student Life building and Stonewall. Facilities are looking into lighting that area as well as trying to create an improved path so that wintry conditions won't cause accidents.

Public Safety wants the campus community to know they are making drastic efforts to reduce the amount of drivers that plow through the gates at the end of Willow Hall. DPS wants to make sure that the students are aware a camera may supervise the gate, and vandals will be caught and prosecuted. Students who have already been caught breaking the gate have suffered disciplinary action by RWU's judicial board, in addition to a fee for changing the gate. Officer Tabares says they are looking into adding a third retribution: community service for DPS.

Other safety issues included the fire lane in the back of Willow Hall (next to the motorcycle space), which was cited as problematic. Maintenance has decided to look into eliminating a parking space and extending the lane wider so that fire trucks will be able to get through the cars. The handicap spot will be moved to the left.

More issues that will be raised as long-term projects include: lighting the narrow land between Bayside units where it is difficult to see shrubbery or anyone against the sides of the buildings; and creating a lit path from the RIPTA stop down to the end of the campus lawn behind FCAS.

In other efforts to increase Crime Prevention, Public Safety has installed a Safe Walk program this semester. Thursday through Sunday between the hours of 11 p.m. and 3 a.m., any student who feels unsafe walking from one part of campus to another may call DPS and receive an escort to safely get them to their destination.

tion to toiletries. Will the University bring a pub to campus? No, because most of our students are underage, and if a pub was established on campus, the administration claims that it would not make enough money to sustain itself. Will the University supply the Almeida apartments with more fire extinguishers, and when will the apartments be renovated? Yes, more fire extinguishers will be placed in the Almeida apartments, and plans for renovation are in the works.



Students Lyndsay Romano, Allycia Gagne, and Brigid O'Mara pose with McCruff during RWU's Safe walk.

Presidential forum

continued from front page

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What is the University going to do about maintaining the laundry room? After taking a quick poll on how many students were losing money in broken machines, the

President promised to talk with the contractor (an independent company who handles the laundry machines).

Can the University support a freestanding kiosk, where students could post classified information without DASA approval? The provost suggested running classified ads in the Hawk's Herald, while maintaining that a freestanding kiosk would be something to consider.

Will the University increase campus recycling and encourage awareness of the environment? Yes, the University plans to increase environmental awareness. President Nirschel stated, "I am very committed to this issue. We need to raise the profile of environmental problems."

What is the commuter fee? None of the staff on the panel had heard of the commuter fee, but they are planning to find out and return to the students with an answer to their inquiry.

Can we have a Christmas tree in the quad? They administration struck down the possibility as a result of potential political problems, however, a "holiday tree" might be considered.

Will the housing deposit be returned after senior year? Yes, as long as there was no need to use it to repair damages.

The forum ended after an hour and forty-five minutes. President Nirschel thanked the students for their "thoughtful and respectful questions," and said he was "encouraged by the dialogue and the discourse."

Student removed from campus

continued from front page

a Plymouth County grand jury on Oct. 31, he appeared in Brockton Superior Court for his arraignment on Wed. Nov. 19. At his arraignment, Senne pleaded not guilty to charges of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Senne's charges stem from an accident occurring on Route 25 in Wareham, Mass. on July 26. Senne was allegedly operating his 1991 Volvo in excess of 90 mph and under the influence of alcohol. His vehicle struck a police cruiser parked in the breakdown lane, sending trooper Ellen Engelhardt into comatose. Engelhardt, who still suffers from severe

head trauma, was recently transported to a rehabilitation center in Chicago.

"All of us continue to pray for her [Engelhardt's] recovery," said Kelly.

For RWU's sailing skipper, Senne, resumes with his courses at RWU, majoring in both French and Business. Kelly notes, "Billy continues to attend classes at RWU, is working hard in his studies, and is doing his best to remain fully compliant with his release conditions." Senne is due back in court on Jan. 8 for a pre-trial conference and continues to be the subject of frequent drug tests.



Officials says Trooper Engelhardt's cruiser, seen above, was pushed to the other side of Rt. 25 in Wareham, Mass.

Photo courtesy of Channel 10 (WJAR)

SCIENCE

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Beer's "dark ingredient" may be key to a healthy heart

By Garry Dow
Science Editor

Call it a hunch. I've known all along that something as wonderful as beer couldn't be all bad. And now, thanks to a heart researcher from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, I've got proof.

John D. Folts, Director of the Coronary Thrombosis Research Laboratory, recently presented a study at the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2003, suggesting dark beer may help prevent blood clots from forming in the heart.

In the study, Folts compared the effects of dark-colored vs. light-colored beer on narrowed arteries in dogs, similar to the narrowing associated with heart disease in humans.

He found the blood clotting cells of dogs fed dark beer had less "stickiness" than did their light-beer-drinking counterparts, even though they had the same blood alcohol level.

Currently, Folts is running the same experiment with humans. In that study, volunteers drink two bottles of either light or dark beer per day. Sign me up, right?

At the present, the jury is still out on whether or not dark beer is working the same magic in humans as it did in dogs, though preliminary

results are encouraging.

Still this is not the first time someone in the medical field has claimed alcohol—in moderation of course—can be beneficial, even healthy. Last year red wine was all the rage.

And for the kids: purple grape juice, a far healthier alternative to the more traditional white grape juice.

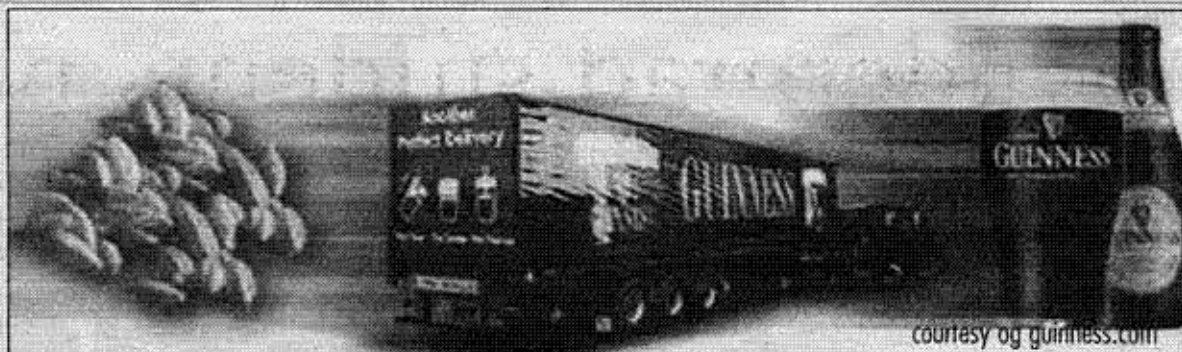
So it seems it is a question of color: Why dark-colored beverages?

Some experts believe it may have to do with special polyphenolic compounds called flavonoids. These are the things that give beer its color. The more flavonoids, it is believed the darker the beer.

Flavonoids, commonly found in flowering plants (angiosperms for you botanists out there), are believed to have strong antioxidant effects, which may be the reason why dark beer is so heart-friendly.

Another theory suggests dark beer may limit the increase of free radicals typically associated with the metabolism of food. Free radicals cause oxidative stress, which has been linked to heart disease in the past.

So the next time you're out, sharing a pitcher of Guinness with some friends, why not propose a toast. "To health, and to a long life," you might say. Because, after all, that is what you are doing—drinking to your health.



courtesy og guinness.com



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Upcoming Events

Science Math Seminar Series
MNS 200 (4:30-5:30 p.m.)

Wednesday Dec. 3

Dr. Dwight Coleman

(Director of Research, Institute of Explorations,
Mystic, CT and URI Graduate School of
Oceanography)

-Marine archaeological exploration of the Black Sea

Wednesday Dec. 10

Dr Cheryl Wilga (URI)

-Biomechanics of feeding and locomotion in sharks

SCIENCE

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Undergrad students present research

By Heather Kordula, Andy Millett

Staff Writers

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, a few undergraduate Roger Williams University students presented their research to an audience of about 30 members of the campus community in the Marine and Natural Science building. The three presenters spoke about the research they had conducted with several different organizations in various places.

The first presenter was Krystal Watkins with her lecture entitled, "Food Limitation, growth, and development of echinoderm larvae: Effects of feeding frequency." Watkins study was part of her required RWU internship and

was conducted in Catalina Island, twenty-five miles off

the coast of L.A. Fellow RWU student Eric Rogers and a graduate student from L.A. assisted her with the research.

Part of Watkins experiment was to collect sea urchins and induce them with 0.5M KCl. This causes the sea urchins to release gametes. Watkins then combined the sperm, egg and separated the larvae into treatments.

The first treatment was lab-reared larvae split into two groups: starved and fed. The second treatment was field reared larvae. After four days the samples were tested.

Watkins explained, "We used the size as an indicator for health and growth." Watkins found that the only difference

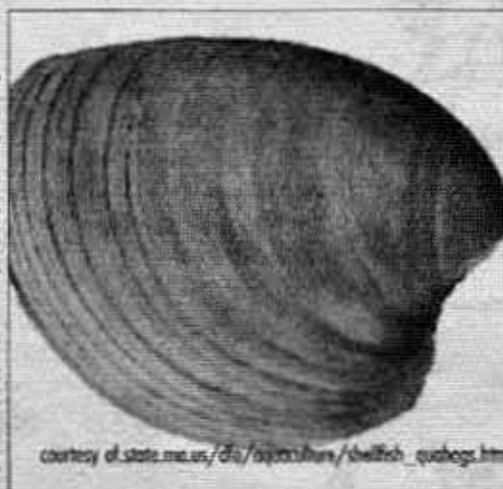
starved grew longer arms.

Watkins hypothesized "This was probably in order to obtain food."

Two weeks later Watkins had to come up with her own experiment and test it, as part of her internship. Her hypothesis was "Does feeding affect growth?" in which she tested the effects of feeding frequency.

She again used sea urchin larvae and split the group into fed daily, fed in one large

from this experiment was she said "Some food is better than none."



courtesy of state.ma.us/dia/aquaculture/bellish-quahogs.htm

metals." Holland conducted his research this past summer here at RWU under the guidance of RWU professor Stephen O'Shea and with fellow RWU student Ambre Bilodeau. The funds for the research were provided by the URI/BRIN grant.

The objective of this research was to determine whether or not there is a correlation between pollutant concentration in the environment and in the tissues of quahogs.

"Biomarkers are effective in determining long term contamination" explained Holland. "And it's an inexpensive way to monitor the environment."

Quahogs were used because they are a sedentary species, can tolerate high levels of pollution, are easy to identify and are prominent in Narragansett Bay.

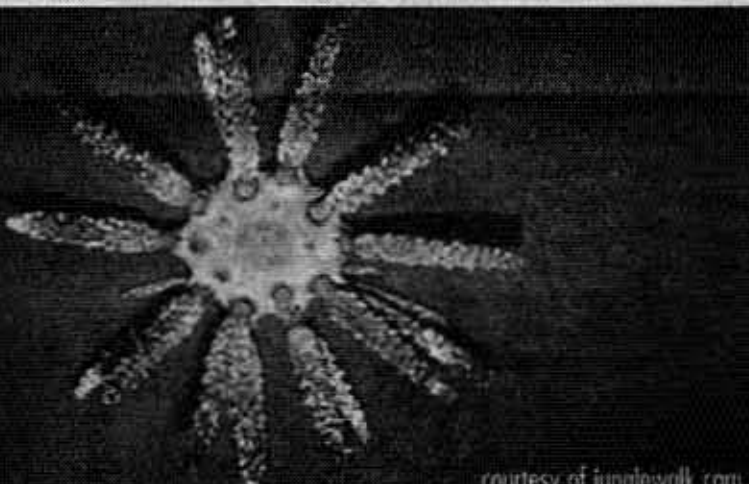
The quahogs were fed algae called isochrysis, which is also prominent in the Bay, induced with cadmium, which is a heavy metal most commonly found in batteries.

Holland wanted to find how the master variables, pH, salinity, and pollutant concentration, affected the binding of cadmium to isochrysis.

This was only the preliminary work to the overall experiment. Many more tests still need to be done including acute and chronic exposure and enzyme analysis.

The final presenter of the afternoon was Steven Hira with his lecture entitled: "Make anything conductive: Deposition of thin films on surfaces." Steve worked on his research at Binghamton University.

Steve's research studied the effects of surface interaction on electrical properties of conducting polymers. Steve coated different surfaces with these polymers, resulting in the layers of polymers possessing electrical properties.



courtesy of junoatwork.com

between the starved and fed sea urchins was that the

amount, and starved. When asked what her conclusion

Tide Chart

Date	Day	High Tide		Low Tide		Sun		Rise	Set
		AM	hgt	PM	hgt	AM	hgt		
30	Sun	12:53	3.9	1:24	4.1	6:22	0.7	7:59	0.5
1	Mon	1:53	3.9	2:23	3.8	8:33	0.7	8:50	0.5
2	Tue	2:52	3.9	3:22	3.6	9:35	0.6	9:24	0.5
3	Wed	3:50	4.0	4:18	3.5	10:19	0.5	9:49	0.4
4	Thu	4:42	4.1	5:07	3.5	10:53	0.4	10:16	0.3
5	Fri	5:29	4.2	5:51	3.5	11:23	0.3	10:48	0.2
6	Sat	6:10	4.3	6:30	3.6	11:54	0.3	11:24	0.0

Interested in writing for the science section?
Contact Garry Dow, Science Editor at
Hawksherald@yahoo.com for more information.

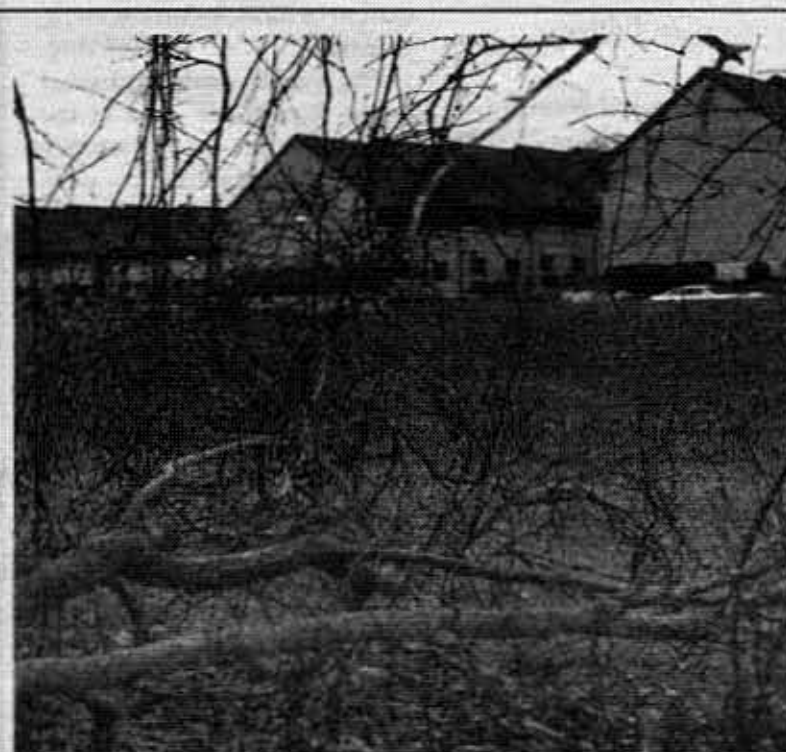


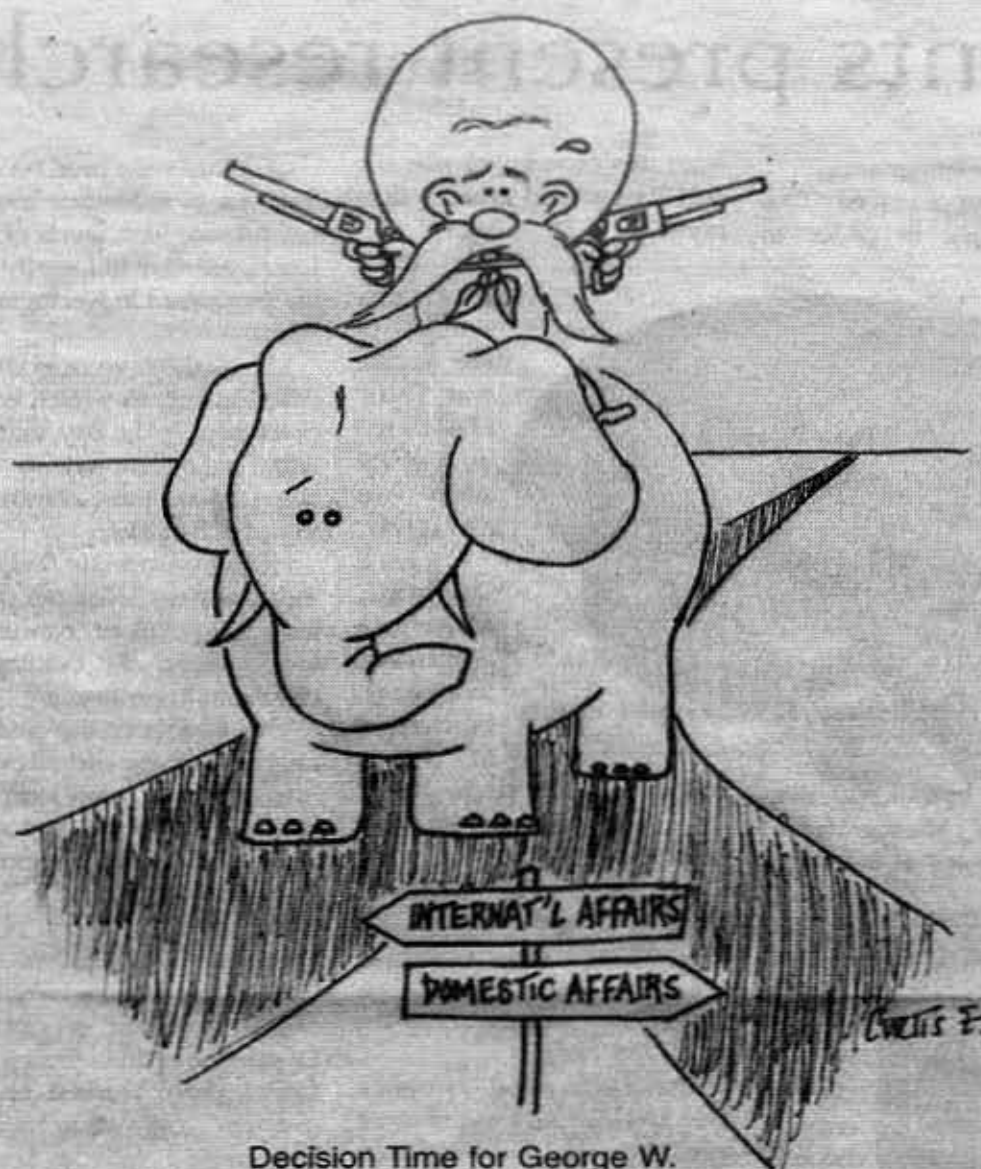
Photo by Garry Dow

In recent weeks, powerful winds downed tree branches across campus. Wind gusts have been measured in excess of 50 mph in some locations.

CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003



Decision Time for George W.

RWU dedicates Services Center in Gabelli

By Blaine Moffa

News Editor

President Nirschel unveiled the newly dedicated Financial Services Center on Oct. 24. After a generous donation to the university, major finance company FIRSTFED was happy to be a part of Roger Williams' continuing technological and academic success.

"We are pleased to be in a position to help RWU," Chairman, CEO and President of FIRSTFED Robert Stoico said. "The university has a bright future and we're glad to be a part of it."

The Financial Services Center (the enclosed room on the lower level of the Gabelli School of Business), brings a new technological advance to campus. Through the lab, students

are able to track, research and trade stocks in a simulated financial marketplace. The room features 25 double monitor computers with access to financial databases Bloomberg and Reuters. The lab also allows whiteboard information to be transferred to each student's computers.

The Services Center was new to this fall's classroom amenities, and is frequently used by business students. President Nirschel says FIRSTFED's contribution was a result of a highly respected, motivated organization.

"This is part of our drive for AACSB accreditation and an increased focus on financial services as a center of excellence for the Gabelli School," he said. "This facility will serve as a symbol of success and achievement for our students."

Memorial held for founder of arch. School

By Jason Turcotte

Co-Editor

A memorial service was held on Saturday Nov. 22 at the Roger Williams University School of Architecture, in honor of its founding dean, Raj Saksena, who recently passed away.

Saksena, 64, of Surat India passed away last month at Aum Intensive Care Unit in Surat on Oct. 4, 2003. Born in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, India, Saksena spent much of his life devoted to establishing the school of architecture at RWU and was named director of the school's architecture division just a couple of years before the program received its first accreditation.

While living in Barrington, Saksena served as the architecture program's director for seven years before earning the

title of dean in 1990. In 1987 Saksena launched an international competition for the design of RWU's current architecture building.

The former dean graduated at the top of his class at the Indian Institute of Technology in 1962 and obtained his masters degree at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

A member of the RI Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Saksena was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, as well as contributing as a constructive architecture critic. During services at RWU, it was announced that a memorial scholarship fund had been established in his honor.

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courtesy of RWU

The dedication of the financial services center took place on Oct. 24, in the business school where President Nirschel and Rober Stoico unveiled the name on the wall.

CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Campus crowns its second Mr. RWU, Students raise funds for New England charity

By Allison Deyo

Staff Writer

After a night of outrageous dancing and eloquent singing, Roger Williams University crowned the second Mr. RWU, sophomore Zack Gregus. A theatre major from Connecticut, Gregus is involved with SAFE, Stage Company, IRHA, and Hall Council.

This is the second year RWU has participated in the "Kids Helping Kids" pageant. The pageant, run by Inter Residence Hall Association (IRHA), was launched by a middle-school boy from Oregon,

who took it with him to high school and calling it the "Mr. Irish" pageant. Twenty-one schools now participate in the program, which has raised over \$352,000 for the Children's Miracle Network. This year, RWU raised \$10,874.06 for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Baystate Medical Center.

There were nine contestants vying for the coveted Mr. RWU Spectacular crown, including: four other sophomores, Peter Baird, Joe Kaye, Chad Roberge, and Jeff Thibau, two juniors, Tony Capriccio, Christian Hanson, and seniors Justin Riley and Christopher Poles.

The evening, hosted by

Matt Butler, began with the contestants performing a choreographed dance to Deniece Williams' "Let's hear it for the Boys," amid catcalls and whistles from an exuberant audience. Following the dance number, the contestants modeled casual wear with escorts from the Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital. After a quick slide show of baby photos, the real competition got underway - the talent segment.

The talented contestants performed songs, played instruments, spun basketballs, made balloon animals, and displayed photography. Mr. RWU Zack Gregus performed a Clay Aiken piece, entitled "This is the Night."

After the formal wear display, Ely Dunn, the Children's Miracle Network coordinator for the Baystate Medical Center, thanked the contestants and gave a description of the work done by the Network.

The contestant interviews capped off the finale for the judging committee, which was comprised of the first Mr. RWU, Adam Maust, Theresa Capelo (Associate Director of Housing), junior Emily Quintin, Dean Richard Stegman, and John Small (Dining Services General Manager).

During the interview process, the contestants were asked two questions (one humorous and one serious). One question was "What current event has

affected you most recently and why?" Mr. RWU Zack Gregus responded, "I would have to say the most important current event that, I think, affected me personally, recently, was the legalization, or the lift of the ban on gay marriage in Massachusetts... it's a very big step for this century and I am very glad that it happened." Gregus' comment was supported by over a hundred cheering students, faculty, and parents.

In addition to the crowning of Mr. RWU, two other awards were given out. Peter Baird received the Mr. Congeniality award, and Chad Roberge received an award for the Most Funds Raised, \$2800.

Photos by:
Allison
Deyo



CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 8

Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Guest speaker bad mouths school testing

By Beth Kleiman
Staff Writer

Alfie Kohn, a writer and speaker on education, spent two hours on Nov. 19, explaining why he believes that standardized tests are useless.

Kohn has been writing and speaking out against standards and conformity in schools for years. He was adamant about the fact that tests lower student's motivation to really learn because the student's are forced to only focus on what they will be tested on.

Kohn told the audience that standardized tests are made difficult specifically so that only about half of students that take them will pass. If more students pass, the tests are expected to be more difficult. Kohn explained this as "a giant sorting machine" to make sure that not too many students pass.

If all students were to do well on a standardized test, it would be assumed that the test was too easy and should therefore be made more difficult. The bar should be raised if the standards are too low. However, if the standards are too high, the bar should

not be lowered because then too many students would pass. If roughly more than half of students pass a standardized test, Kohn said, the test will be made more difficult so that fewer students will pass the next time around. This makes a "who is beating who" attitude toward standardized tests.

Kohn stated, "Higher scores on standardized tests are not just meaningless, but often bad news." He believes there is "nothing to brag about" if test scores go up. This does not indicate an improvement in students, but simply more preparation.

Kohn argued that if a score was low last year and higher this year, it probably went up by chance alone. 50-80% of higher scores are due to change in environment and new kids taking the tests. Kohn told the audience, "You'd have to be ignorant or lying to take pride in higher test scores," and when one does they are part of the problem.

If teachers prepare students for these standardized tests, Kohn considers this cheating. He stated there are different levels of cheating. What he considers hidden cheating is when teachers give out some answers for the sole

purpose of increasing their school's test scores. Legal cheating, according to Kohn is when the educators teach to the test. The curriculum in the classroom follows what will be on the test. This is designed to help students prepare for the test, but Kohn believes this defeats the purpose of the test. The more pressure there is for high scores, the more preparation, and the more meaningless the test turns out to be.

Kohn also believes that it is unhelpful and unethical to list school's test scores in the newspaper. He encourages people to write to their newspaper and speak out against posting scores. Kohn let the audience know that "we must never forget the difference between real learning and test learning." He encouraged the audience to speak out against standardized tests and take action by writing to state representatives and senators as well as boycotting tests.

When discussing different teaching styles, Kohn stated that the best teachers rarely ever give tests. They never give letter grades, and never grade on individual assignments.

Kohn believes there is an "educational ethnic cleansing in America" and it should be stopped. Conformity and standards in schools are "death to good teaching."

Plans start to circulate for entrance movement

By Blaine Moffa
News Editor

There are tentative plans in store for modifying the entrance to Roger Williams University. School administration along with Boston based architecture firm Goody Clancy is working on creating a new entryway to the university.

Executive Assistant to the President Jeff Gillooly says it is a work in progress, but plans will be defined soon. "We're

looking at the campus as a whole with pedestrian and vehicular travel and trying to figure out what makes sense."

Gillooly says the movement hopes to include pushing the entrance further south towards the Mt. Hope Bridge, and making it an "enter only." Plans are to move the exits to the perimeters of campus, in effort to increase safety measures for traffic.

Moving the entrance also helps commuters and prospective students to have a better visibility of RWU from the road, a current difficulty

because the majority of campus is set on the interior. Administration is considering fencing to distinguish the importance of the campus, greenery to enhance and decorate, more lighting around the entirety of campus, and a new welcome center to aid in interest from those passing by.

"We want to make a statement," Gillooly said. "We want people who drive by to see the prominent entrance and know what it is and how to get in."

The construction of the entrance is tentatively scheduled to be operational by next fall. There are no plans with the town of Bristol to place additional traffic lights around the campus entrances or exits.


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Stonewall 4 rises to Superstar Challenge

By Beth Kleiman
Staff Writer

The Superstars events have wrapped up this weekend with Stonewall 4 finishing in first place with 4,4470 points. RWU spirit was tested this year as each dorm competed for the title of Superstar.

Superstars are a series of programs is sponsored by DSL. The teams were made up of different RWU residential communities, and led by the RA's. The RA's goals were inspire as many residents to get involved as possible and promote team spirit.

As stated in a DSL publication for Superstars, the program's intent is "promoting a community within the living areas." Each team was required

to create a team name, team identity, team plank, and team flag.

Joe Lore, one of the RAs for Stonewall 4 was very pleased with this year's outcome. Lore said the Superstars program was "the quickest and easiest way to make friends."

There were 11 major events in all, including the College Bowl (co-sponsored with CEN) where the winners advance to the regional competition in February.

Winners for each of the major Superstars events won certificates announcing their achievement, as well as a "yummy prize." The overall winners received t-shirts, trophies and a special barbecue or dessert reception in addition to the team name placed on the "continuous" plaque located in the DSL.